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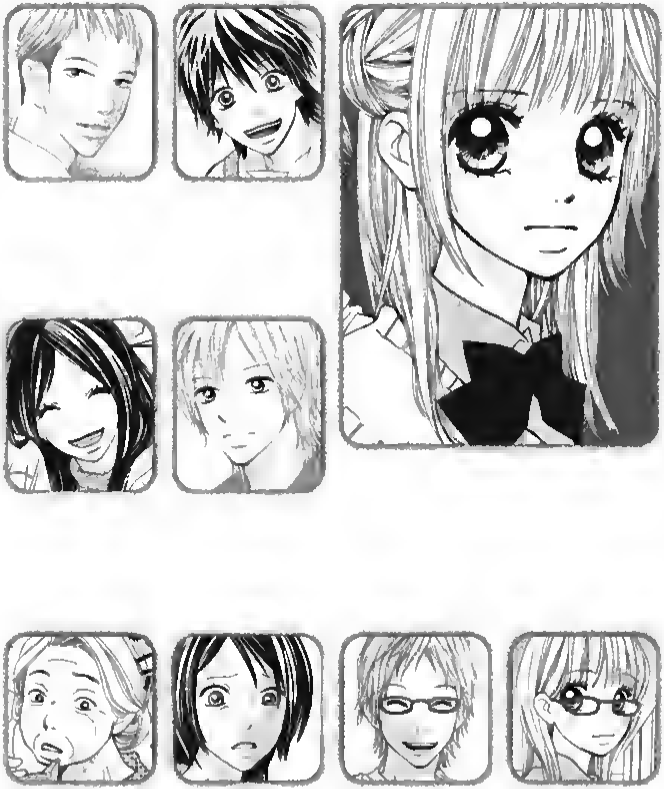
もも ち 麗子（れいこ）

第13話「ことり殺害事件の隠された真相」—3
第14話「DVDのなかのことり」—41
第15話「逆転」—79
第16話「決断」—117



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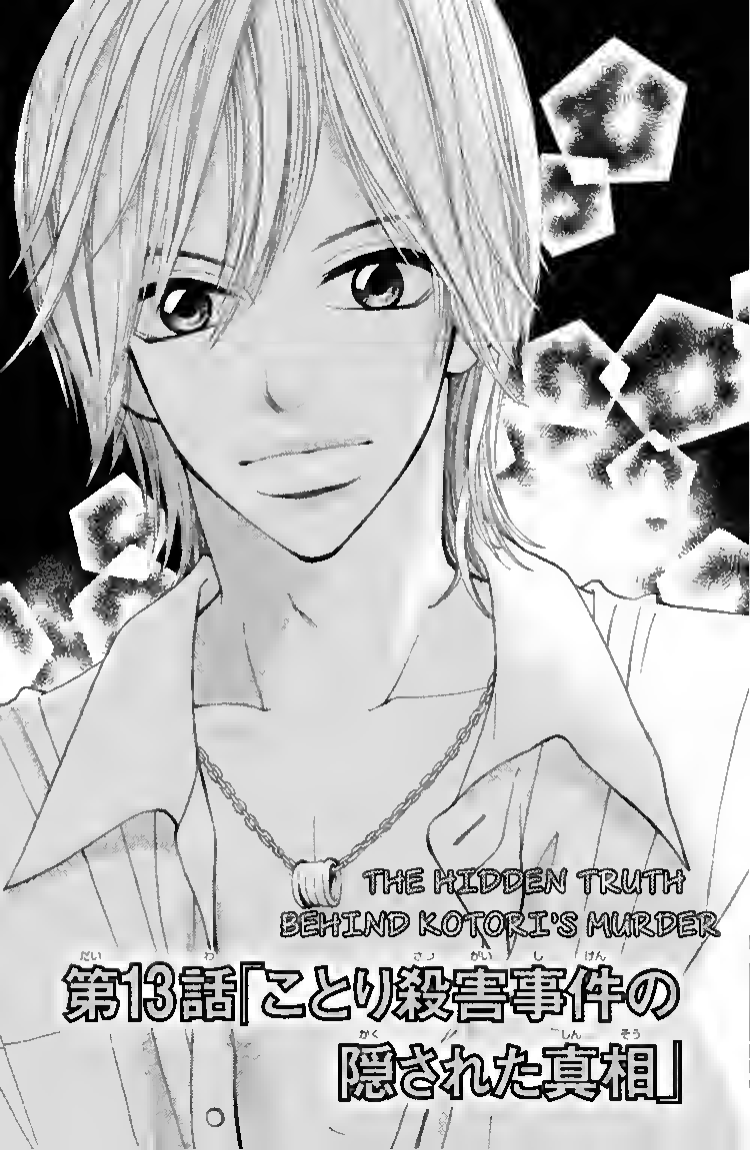


THE HIDDEN TRUTH
BEHIND KOTORI'S MURDER

第13話「ことり殺害事件の隠された真相」

DON'T DO THAT, FUUTA.
I CAN'T TAKE THESE OFF.
IT'S BECAUSE KOTORI IS A GLASSES-TYPE OF GIRL.
May...

The forest where she was murdered is now paved over with concrete and just last week, a park was built on the site
The name "Suzuki Nohara" doesn't appear on headlines or TV anymore
3 years have passed by since that incident
Meow
Yes.
Are you going to give birth?
Hime-chan.
...
HOLD ON, PULITA. YOU'RE HEAVYYY!
Get off!
YOUR STOMACH... YOU'RE PREGNANT?!
You... well that's no surprise
He sends me stupid pictures from time to time
Yuuwa also discovered that his favorite gravure idol goes to the same university as him.
Today's lunch is curry
SO WHAT IF SHE HAS BIG BOOBS?
She doesn't even know who you are
HMPH!

I WOULD HAVE FORGIVEN HIM
IF MURASE-KUN REALLY HAD BEEN GOTOUDA...
IF HE HAD TOLD ME THE TRUTH AND TRIED HIS BEST TO MAKE UP FOR IT
EVEN IF THIS WAS GOTOUDA'S CHILD, I WOULD PROBABLY STILL GIVE BIRTH TO IT
Her words were honest, yet harsh.

Someone once said:

"A person has two deaths...

The first death happens when his life ends,

the second death happens when no one remembers him anymore."

It
For everyone else, "Nobara"...
probably hasn't yet come to the point where I have completely disappeared from the world.
But it's only me who grieves
Gotouda Manabu..
Does it agonize you to think of Suzuki Nobara, the girl you killed?
Does the thought of Nobara haunt you?

KONNICHIWA!
Hime-chan...
HUH
TODAY'S THE DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF NOBARA, AFTER ALL.

Hime-chan...
TH-THANK YOU VERY MUCH
What should I do? I should say something..
OH!
AH! D-DON'T DO THAT, PUUTA! HER STOMACH IS...!

Meow
I'M REALLY SORRY, HIME-CHAN!
ARE YOU OKAY?
YES, IT'S NO BIG DEAL...
B-BUT...
Somehow she was just like Natsumi
YOUR BUMP'S NOT THAT NOTICEABLE YET
Yeah!
IT'S FLAT! YOU'RE THREE MONTHS IN, BUT YOU'RE STILL SO SKINNY!
IT DOESN'T HAVE A HEAD YET, OR HANDS OR FEET!
— You know...
THE OTHER DAY, WHEN I WENT TO THE GYNE-COLOGIST, SHE SHOWED ME THE ULTRASOUND
AND I HEARD A HEARTBEAT!
IT WAS BEATING SO MUCH!
The baby's heart...
This is the baby's heart ?

Hey...
IS IT OKAY IF I TOUCH YOUR STOMACH?
SURE
...
Is it really... inside here?
A new "life"...

IT'S AMAZING.
It's somewhat amazing.
I... I'M PLANNING ON DROPPING OUT OF COLLEGE.
MY FATHER HASN'T QUITE FORGIVEN MURASE-KUN OR MY PREGNANCY YET...
BUT I WANT MY FATHER TO ACCEPT HIM AS A MEMBER OF OUR FAMILY
KOTORI-CHAN?
I DON'T THINK YOU CAN HEAR ITS HEARTBEAT JUST YET
I'M SO SORRY, HIME-CHAN...
FOR NOT TRUSTING MURASE-SAN
AND FOR SAYING HORRIBLE THINGS TO YOU
I WASN'T REALLY ENVIOUS OF YOU OR ANYTHING...
YOU CAN'T GIVE BIRTH! THAT'S THE CHILD OF A MURDERER!
HE'S GOTOUDA!
KOTORI-CHAN... ARE YOU STILL LOOKING FOR GOTOUDA...?
It's not, by any means, a betrayal when everyone else gradually forgets about "Nobara".

OF COURSE, THERE'S NO WAY SUCH AN UNREALISTIC WISH COULD EVER BE GRANTED.
I WANT TO GO BACK IN TIME TO THE DAY BEFORE THAT INCIDENT
THAT'S WHY I RELIED ON THE MUCH MORE REALISTIC DEATH PENALTY
IF THEY HAD NO INTENTION OF OVERTURNING THEIR INNOCENT VERDICT, I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE BEST IF I KILLED GOTOUDA WITH MY OWN HANDS.
BUT THERE'S NO WAY I CAN GIVE UP
I ALSO HAVE NO PLANS ON FORGIVING HIM.
I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING FOR THE PAST MONTH...
Nothing at all...
I KEPT THINKING OF STUPID THINGS.
"TO TURN BACK TIME..." "I MIGHT HAVE THAT DREAM AGAIN."
EVENTUALLY, I THOUGHT...
BUT, IF IT'S JUST ME, I CAN ONLY MAKE IT THIS FAR

It also surprised me that it's already been three years, and I can't even remember what we talked about in our conversations.
Compared to at first, I think about Kotori less and less.
I feel guilty every time I smile.
YESTERDAY, I WATCHED A VARIETY SHOW AND LAUGHED MY HEART OUT
The thought of forgetting about "Nobara" today was frightening.
"WELCOME HOME, NOBA-RA"
I COULD THEN SAY "GOOD MORNING, NOBARA" "COME HERE, NOBARA".
IF THE BABY IS A GIRL, I WAS THINKING OF NAMING HER NOBARA.
Eh...
Just like this, I want to stop playing the role of Kotori.
NOBARA

ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
OHH!
It's a nice feeling
Eh?
WHY?
Hisha..
Hime-chan..
KONNICHIWAA~
CHI-CHAN!
Nobara.. She's naming her child after me!
For all the time.
I'm sure, "Nobara" will live inside them.

BABY POU
.....
BUT HOW COME SHE'S GROWN EMOTIONALLY ATTACHED TO HER?
THAT'S RIGHT. I'VE MOVED OUT OF MY HOUSE AND LIVING WITH THEM WELL, PUUTA...
Oh, someone's here.
Puuta~ Where are you?
KOTORI IS ALLERGIC TO CATS, RIGHT?
PUUTA ALSO DOESN'T LIKE TO GO NEAR KOTORI...
It's all right. I'll just keep on living as "Kotori".

Ah, yes. Well it hasn't been born yet...
Welcome~
IS IT A GIFT?
¥7,980
THEY USE LESS CLOTH FOR THIS BUT IT'S MORE EXPENSIVE THAN AN ADULT'S CLOTHES!!
Why is that?
UWAA, IT'S SO EXPENSIVE!
It's a bit early but
SHE'S EXPECTING TO GIVE BIRTH IN DECEMBER, I PROBABLY WON'T HAVE ENOUGH MONEY THEN.
KING
AH!
YES, YES. WHAT IS IT TODAY?
This is bad!
Is it about that gravure idol again? What is it now?
Himeno got into an accident!

Eh...
They were both riding Murase-san's motorcycle when Himeno fell off!
Hime-chan!
长大附属病院

I KILLED MY OWN BABY...
I... I...
IT'S GOOD THAT HIMENO IS SAFE.
THE BABY..
IT CAN'T BE HELPED, HIMENO.
NOOO! YOU'RE LYING!
WAAAAAAAAA
...

A miscarriage...
Why?
How did this happen?
HIMENO
Murase-san.

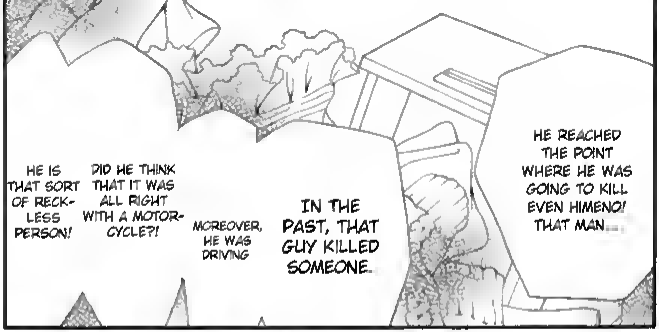
WHY?!
WHAT WERE YOU TWO DOING RIDING A MOTOR-CYCLE?!
YOU KNOW THAT HIME-CHAN IS PREGNANT! WHY...
D-...
DAD...*
WE WERE GOING TO GET HER MATERNITY HEALTH RECORD BOOK...
SO THE TWO OF US... IMMEDIATELY HEADED THERE.
DID YOU TELL HER TO GET ON THE MOTOR-CYCLE?!
I...

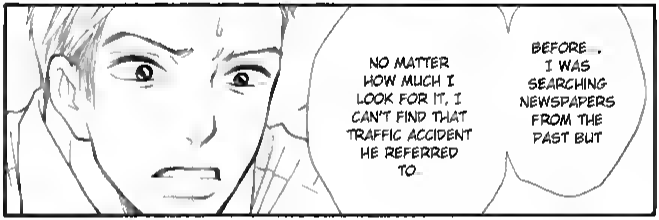
T/N: It's actually Himeno's dad

Uncle!
I'M REALLY SORRY
I'M SORRY!
FOR THIS THING.
TSK
DAD...
NO, THAT'S I...
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN YOU CAN NOW RELAX, RIGHT?
I HAVE DECIDED THAT YOU TWO WON'T BE MARRIED

NOW THAT SHE'S NOT CARRYING A CHILD ANYMORE, THERE'S NO REASON TO GET MARRIED, RIGHT?
Dad!!!
MURASE-SAN, YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE WALKING AROUND PLEASE GO BACK
DO YOU KNOW WHERE THAT MAN'S APARTMENT IS?
MURASE-SAN'S? YES...
IT SEEMS THAT HIMENO'S INSURANCE CARD IS IN HIS APARTMENT SO I WANTED TO GO AND GET IT.
.....
AH... YOU'RE NOBARA-CHAN'S SISTER, RIGHT?
YES.
UHM...

202
IT'S THIS ONE
UNCLE?! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
I WANT TO MOVE ALL OF HIMENO'S THINGS OUT OF HERE!
EH?!
I'M SORRY I TRICKED YOU INTO COMING
I WILL NEVER ALLOW HIMENO TO GO BACK TO THIS PLACE AGAIN!
YOU CAN'T JUST DECIDE THINGS FOR HER...
Even if you are her father!


HE REACHED THE POINT WHERE HE WAS GOING TO KILL EVEN HIMENO! THAT MAN...
IN THE PAST, THAT GUY KILLED SOMEONE.
MOREOVER, HE WAS DRIVING
DID HE THINK THAT IT WAS ALL RIGHT WITH A MOTOR-CYCLE?!
HE IS THAT SORT OF RECK-LESS PERSON!


BEFORE . I WAS SEARCHING NEWSPAPERS FROM THE PAST BUT
NO MATTER HOW MUCH I LOOK FOR IT, I CAN'T FIND THAT TRAFFIC ACCIDENT HE REFERRED TO.

EH...?
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT MAN?!
NO MATTER WHAT, I JUST DON'T TRUST HIM!
NO MATTER WHAT, THAT MAN...
THAT CASE ISN'T EVEN ON THE NEWS-PAPERS...
YOU, CAN YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVE SUCH A MAN?!

...
WAIT
EH.. AH..
CAN YOU WAIT FOR A WHILE? I'LL RETURN SOON
...
King
AH
IS THAT SO? GOT IT
What's this? It's hidden under his drawer.
...?
YOU, CAN YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVE IN SUCH A MAN?!
I...

北高
鈴木のばら
It's my name...

Kita High's main gate...
Ah...
This is me.

Right now she's in the middle of her part-time job~
Why am I on this DVD?
Our next target is
this
Nobara-chan~

Eh...
!!!
EH...
Who...?
YOU SURPRISED ME~
I WAS ASKED BY MURASE TO GET HIM A CHANGE OF CLOTHES

What's this DVD?
What is this?
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
AH—?! WHAT'S THIS?!
AH, THIS IS...
AH,
I'LL GO CHECK ON HIM
HIME-CHAN'S DAD HE SAID HE'S GOING BACK SOON BUT...
JUST NOW, I WAS WITH UNCLE...
I—I WAS LOOKING FOR HIMENO'S INSURANCE CARD...
SORRY
HEY.. WAIT...
HA?

DVD Kita High//Suzuki Nobara
北高
鈴木のばら

CAFE
MURASE-SAN...

.....
CAT RACER

He was taking my pictures secretly...?!

Clunk
T-This is...
That's not me!
This was when Kotori and I changed places!
XP
2008. 6.29 PM 6:15

2008. 6.29

This is the day when Kotori was killed!

Gotouda...

CLUNK
Hey, Murase-san...
Why is this thing inside your room?
Why-

Just what is the meaning of this?!
北高 鈴木のばら
DVD Kita High//Suzuki Nobara

Enoch's
Volume 4 Chapter 5

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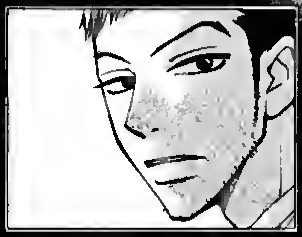
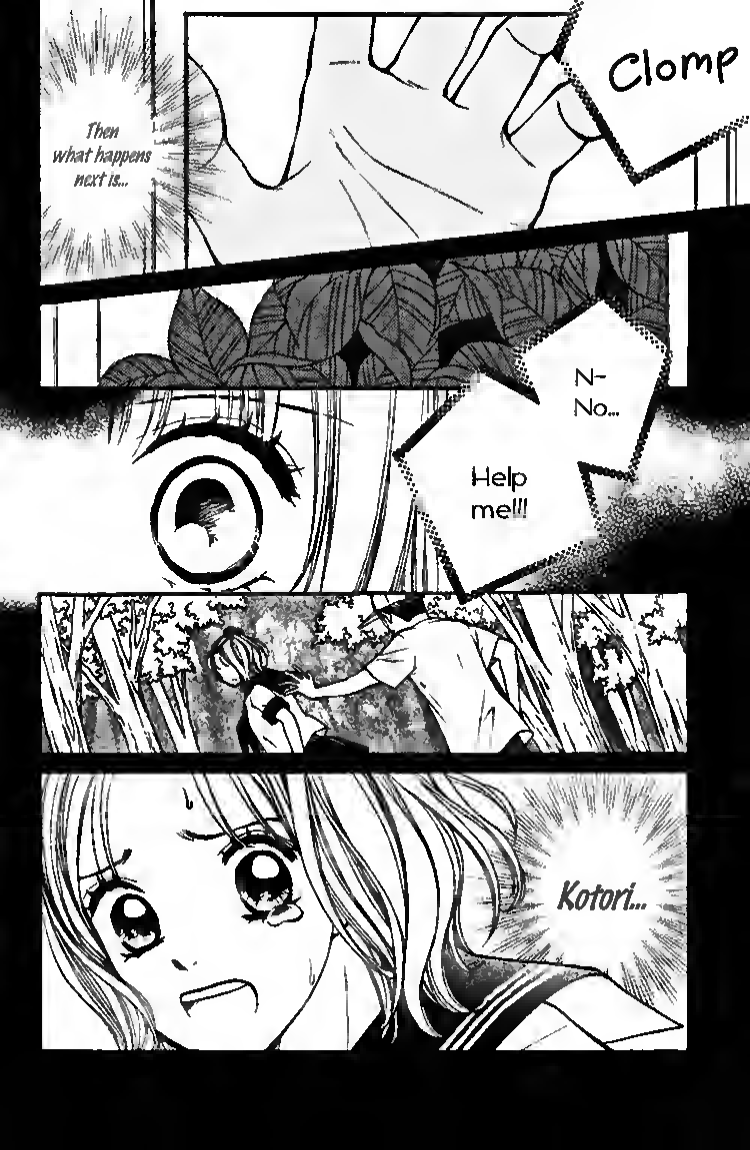
Chapter 14 - The Kotori on the DVD

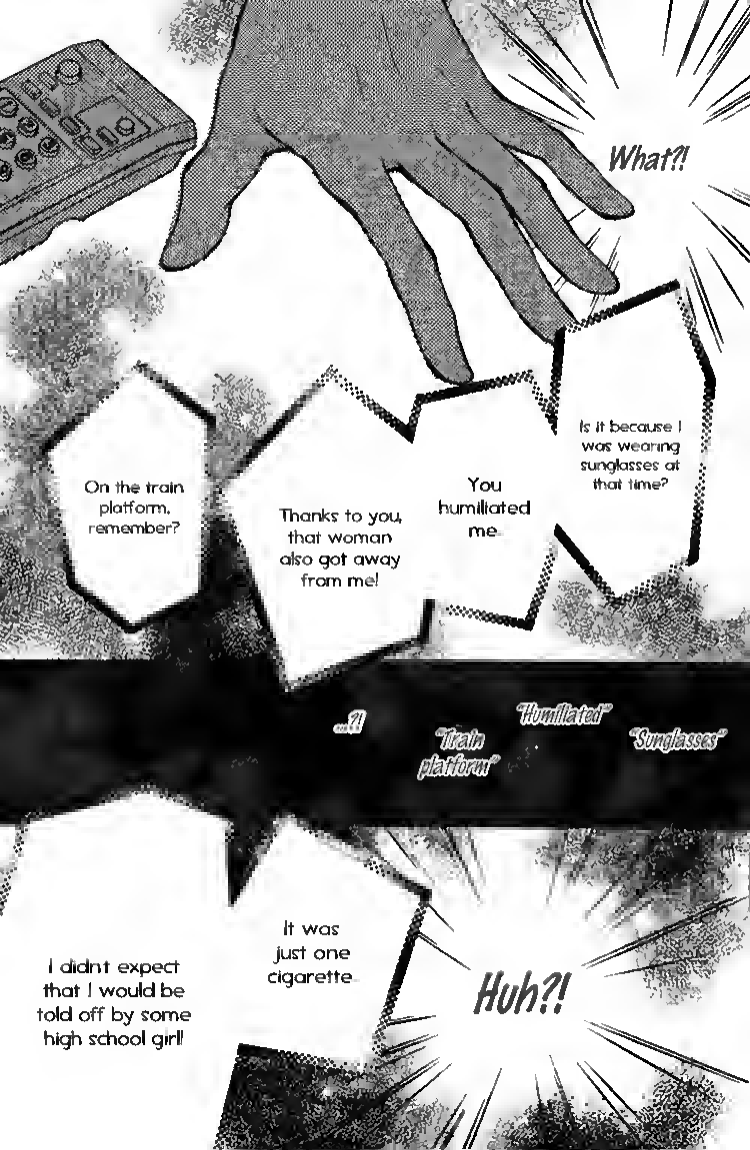


This video
You idiot! Don't take any videos yet!
was taken on the day Gotouda killed
2008.6.29
But the exciting part is when you drag her to the forest!
Kotori...

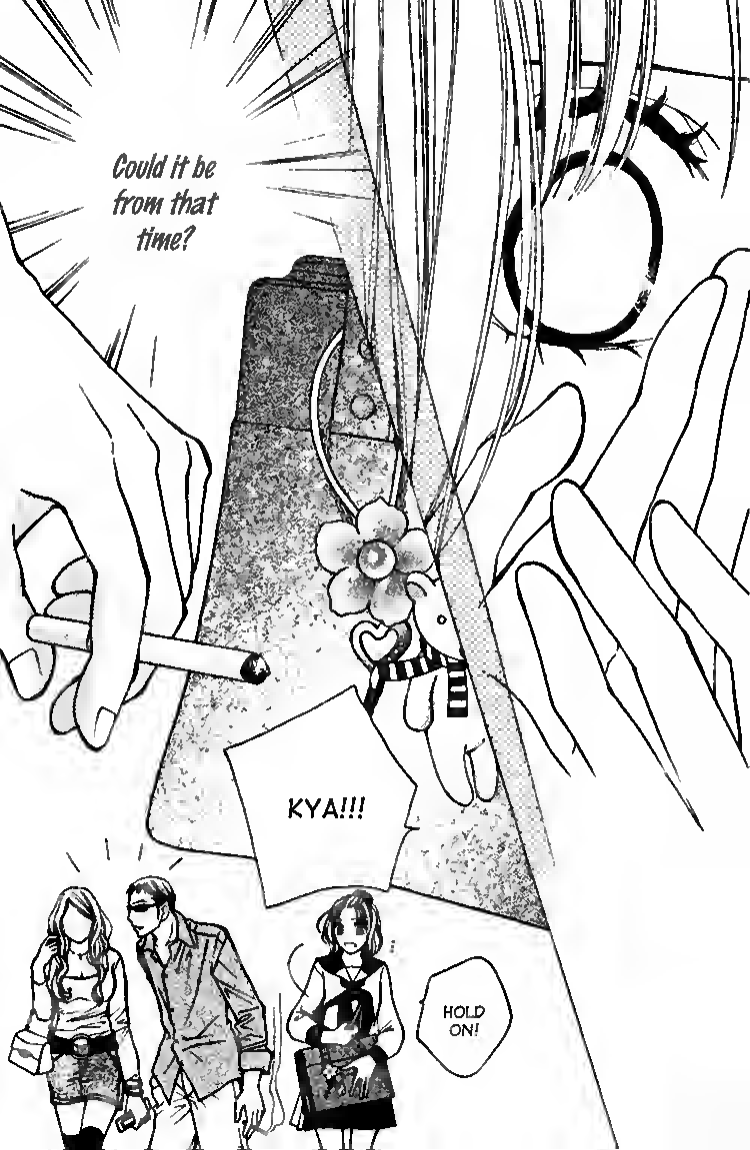

Clomp
Then what happens next is...
N-No...
Help me!!!
Kotori...

thud
Tell me your favorite number.
No–
So, what is it?!
Because of you, I got humiliated that time
Hmm... 10?
So this time, I'll return the favor tenfold.
It's too late to apologize now.

What should I apologize for?!
What's this? Have you already forgotten what you did to me?


What?!
Is it because I was wearing sunglasses at that time?
You humiliated me.
Thanks to you, that woman also got away from me!
On the train platform, remember?
...?!
"Humiliated"
"Train platform"
"Sunglasses"
It was just one cigarette.
Huh?!
I didn't expect that I would be told off by some high school girl!

Stop—
Got it? Remember this, No—ba—ra—chan.
If you're hurt or if you're feeling miserable, I can probably forgive you.
Ah...
to embarrass men like that!
Women have no right
Absolutely no right to!


Could it be from that time?
KYA!!!
HOLD ON!

IT'S ALSO MY DAY OFF TOMORROW.
YOUR HOUSE IS NEAR? THAT'S GREAT!
Asshole playboy.
Can't you see she doesn't give a damn about what you're doing tomorrow?!
GEEZ! THAT WAS DANGEROUS!

HEY, YOU!
PUT YOUR CIGARETTE OUT!
JUST NOW, YOUR CIGARETTE WAS RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE BABY'S FACE
UH—
SMOKING IS PROHIBITED ON THE PLATFORM AT ALL TIMES
YOU BITCH—

WAIT!
HEY!!! AH,
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?!
CLOSE
CLICK
WHOA!
chatter
DAMN IT!
slap

QU-QUIT STARING AT ME!
Go away!
That time... it couldn't be!!!

Was he the same guy?
That was Gotouda?!

He made Nobara (me) his target because of that incident?!
rustle
That day, we twins switched places and Gotouda, without knowing anything...
You dont have any right to complain while I return the favor!!
Sto—
I will return the favor.

SCRATCH
You bi—
You'll pay for that!
Someone, help me!!!
Ugh...
I told you I won't forgive you, right?!

Fu...
Ugh...
Oh, unexpectedly Manabu kun is having trouble isn't he?
Help me... someone!!!
Is anyone out there?!
He—

I'll kill you!
If you dont listen,
SLAP
Ah!
SLAP
You bitch...!!!
AAHHH! Help meee!!

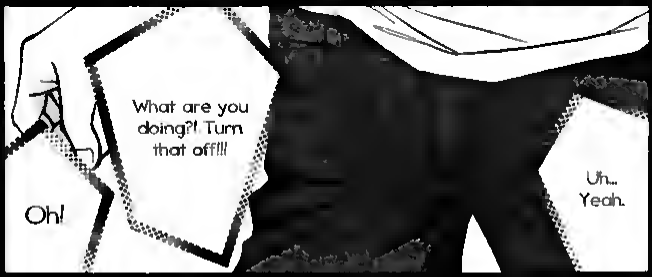
strangle
GVE...
Uh...

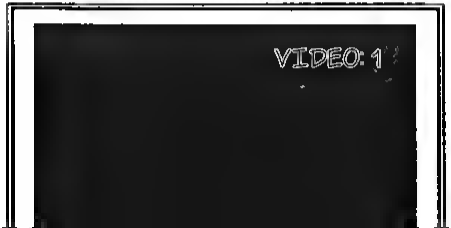
H-HELP... ME...
NO— ... NOBA...
RA...
Manabu-kun, should we still continue this?
Ah... Ah... what a perfect feeling it would be! Parting ways with this girl!
RUSTLE RUSTLE

Hey, Manabu... The girl... she's not breathing.
Huh?
This sucks.
shake
It's not exciting when she isn't resisting you.
Shit—
shake
Hey! Wake up!
Oh no! This is baaad!!!
!!!
Whaaa+?!
She's dead?!

Don't go overboard.
Should we give her CPR?
Calm down!
Seriously?! This is bad!

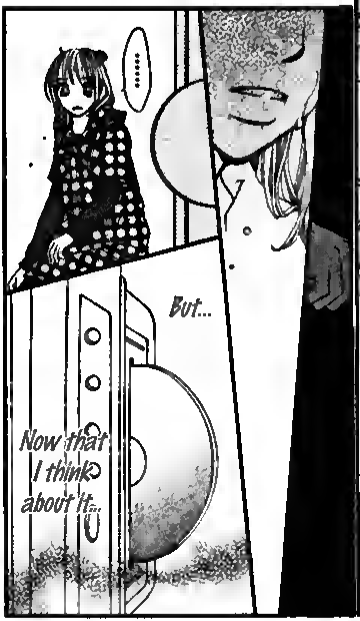
We'll split up! Let's head opposite of the police officers.
Huh?!
In the meantime, let's get out of here!
Huh? Yeah, probably.
Hey, nobody saw us go in here, right?


Oh!
What are you doing?! Turn that off!!!
Uh... Yeah.


VIDEO: 1

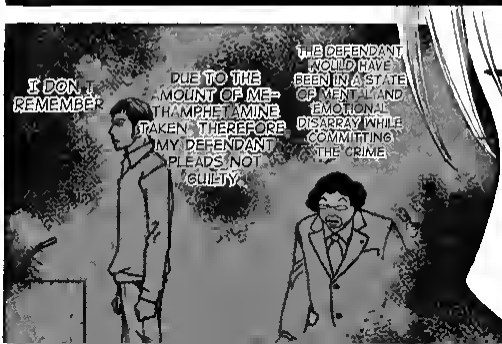
That was Kotori's final moment.
H-HELP ME... NO NOBA RA...
Those were Kotori's last words.
RI... !!!

KOTORI!
If you hadn't changed places with me then...
AAAHH
You wouldn't have died!
If I hadn't told him off on the train platform...
It was only because of that?!
Even... Even so.....!!!



Did you have to take someone's life away because of that?!
Because of that, you kept watch and stalked a woman all by herself?!
Gotouda's crazy!

This is him in a state of "unsound mind"?


I DON'T REMEMBER
DUE TO THE AMOUNT OF METHAMPHETAMINE TAKEN, THEREFORE MY DEFENDANT PLEADS NOT GUILTY.
THE DEFENDANT WOULD HAVE BEEN IN A STATE OF MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL DISARRAY WHILE COMMITTING THE CRIME.

So when Kotori was attacked by Gotouda, he wasn't under the influence of any drug?
So everything he said during the trial was a lie?!
Everything until now...
From the start until the end, he wasn't really intoxicated?!
Was it just a lie?
N—
NO—

AH!
HELLO, KOTORI-CHAN.
KA-CH^
COME ON.
YOU MUST BE HUNGRY, RIGHT? HERE, EAT UP~

MY MY ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
I'm going to show this DVD to the police.
He didn't just "meet him" by accident in the park.
This was all planned!
Plus the fact that this came from Murase's room...
That tattoo on his right arm... So Murase is Gotouda...
No matter how you look at it, it wasn't the influence of drugs.

so that this DVD will be shown to the public
I also need to tell that to the police...
Innocent?
Will you still think he's innocent then?
Oh, welcome home
YOU'RE HOME LATER THAN USUAL? DID YOU GO TO THE HOSPITAL?
PUU-CHAN LOOKED LIKE HE WAS HUNGRY SO I GAVE HIM SOME FOOD
Really?
SORRY ABOUT THAT...
I HAD TO WAIT FOR TWO HOURS EVEN THOUGH I HAD AN APPOINTMENT. SO I WENT HOME LATE
OH YEAH I SHOULD SAY THIS

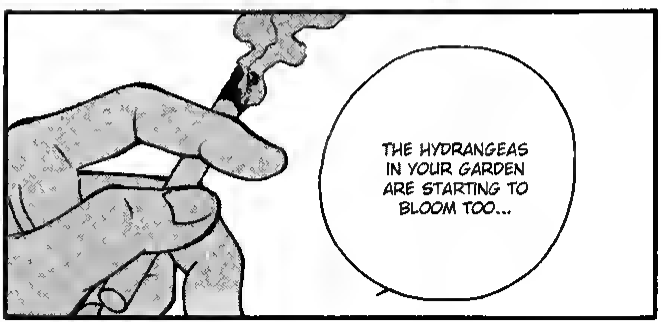
I will have Gotouda prosecuted!
HUH?
JUST NOW, KOTORI CAME RUNNING OUT WITH A STRANGE LOOK AND WENT SOMEWHERE...
See you, Pun-chan.
Gasp
THAT CAT DOESN'T HAVE A SHRED OF CUTENESS IN HIM.
.....

Inspector!
Ah.
I'll bring him in front of the courtroom once more!
At this point, it doesn't matter if he finds out that I'm the real Nobara.
RING
RING
INSPECT—

INCOMING
NUMBER WITHHELD
RING
RING
RING
RING
!!
.....
H-HELLO.
.....
?
WHAT DID YOU DO WITH THE DVD?

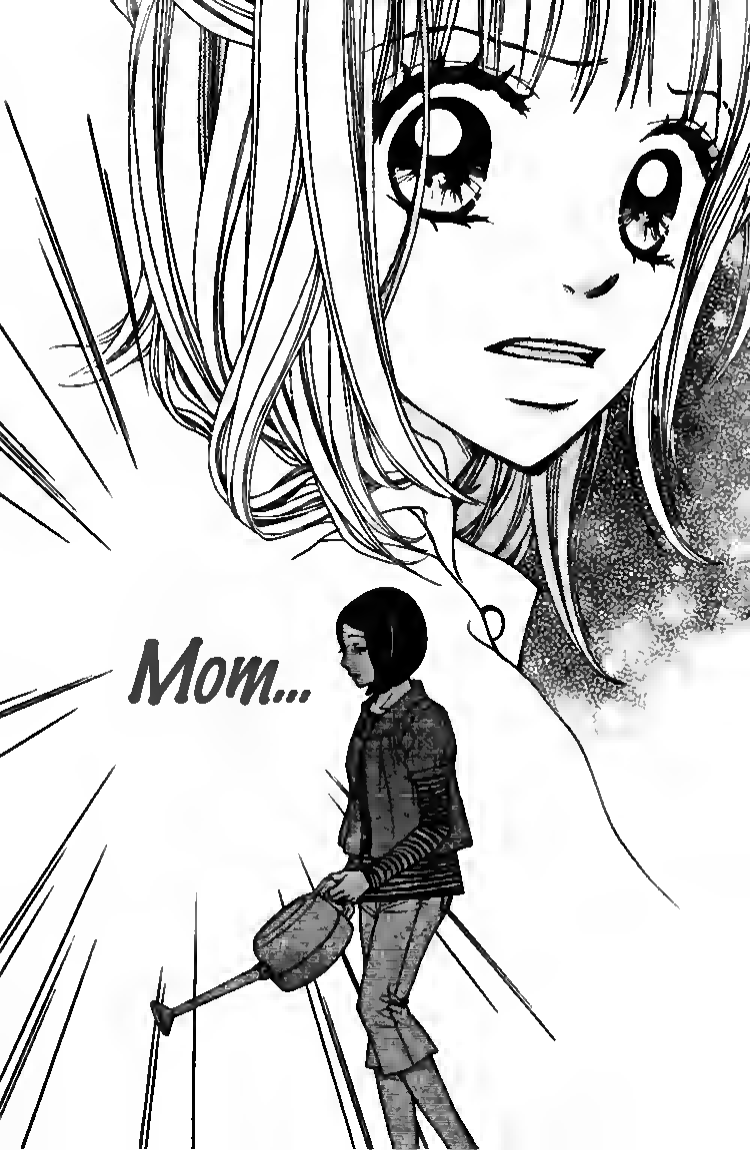
GOTOUDA?!
Was that Murase's voice just now?
IT'S YOU, ISN'T IT?
OR SHOULD I SAY MURASE-SAN?!
I'M AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE POLICE STATION, YOU KNOW.
I WANT YOU TO RETURN THAT TO ME, THOUGH.
DO YOU KNOW WHERE I AM RIGHT NOW?
WELL, THAT'S FINE. YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME LEFT ANYWAY BEFORE YOU'RE ARRESTED AGAIN

Chuckles
...WHERE... WHERE ARE YOU RIGHT NOW?!
JUST NOW, SHE FORCE FED SOME SWEETS TO THE CAT...
Huh?
THE OLD LADY NEXT DOOR... SATOU-SAN, RIGHT? SHE JUST DROPPED BY YOUR HOUSE TO PET YOUR CAT. SHE'S PURRING BY THE SHADE...
THERE'S NO W/Y I'D DO THAT!


THE HYDRANGEAS IN YOUR GARDEN ARE STARTING TO BLOOM TOO...

GOTOUDA?!
AH— HERE COMES YOUR MOM
SHE'S LOOKING QUITE WELL THESE DAYS, HUH?
SHE'S EVEN HUMMING TO HERSELF.

WHA—
NO!!!
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING?!
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO WITH MY MOM?!
GOTOUDA? HELLO!! GOTOUDA...!!!


Mom...

Smooth
Volume 4 Chapter 14

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Chapter 15 "Comeback"

Gotouda is in front of my house!!!
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO WITH MOM?!
STOP!
DON'T DO ANYTHING STUPID, GOTOUDA.
THEN... GIVE THAT DVD BACK TO ME.

I PROMISE YOU.
IF YOU RETURN IT, I WON'T TOUCH YOUR MOM.
In return of mom's life...?
How sick is he?!
UH
THERE'S A BUS THERE, RIGHT?
WHAT?
THE BUS STOP TO YOUR RIGHT.

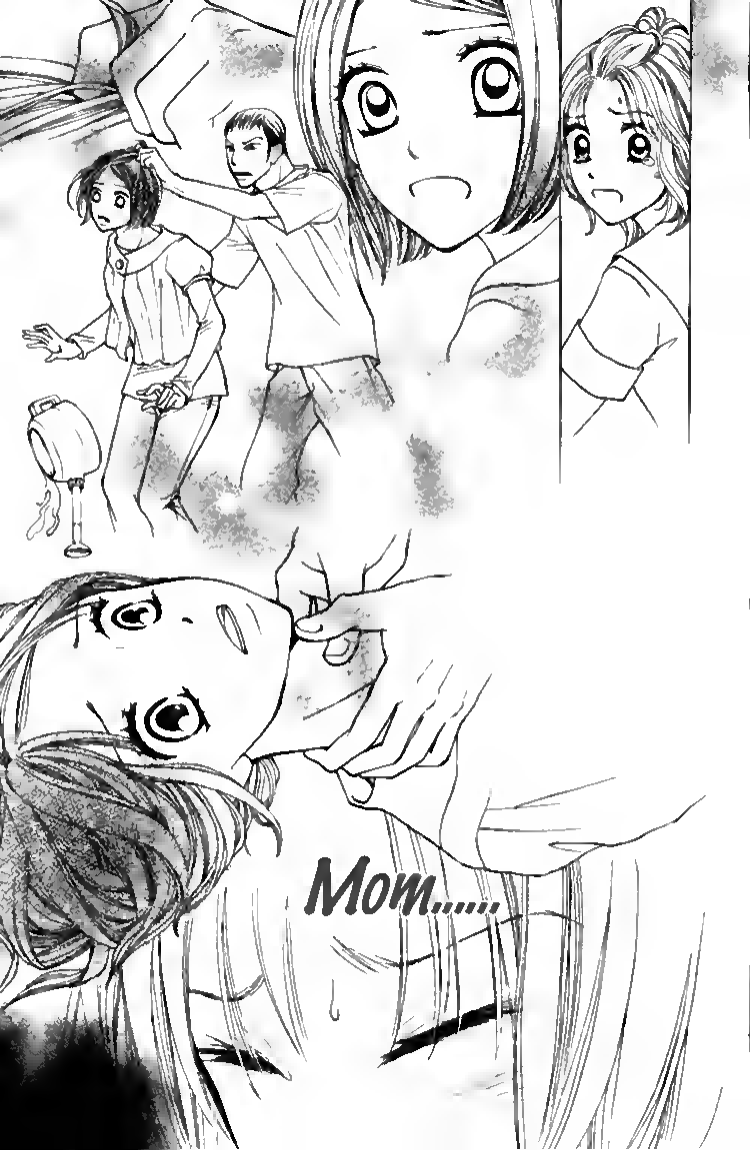
A BUS GOING TO AOHARA SHOULD BE THERE ABOUT THIS TIME.
!!
NAKANO NORTH POLICE STATION
AOHARA
Detective...
FIRST, DON'T SAY ANYTHING. THEN, GO ON THAT BUS.
GOT IT?

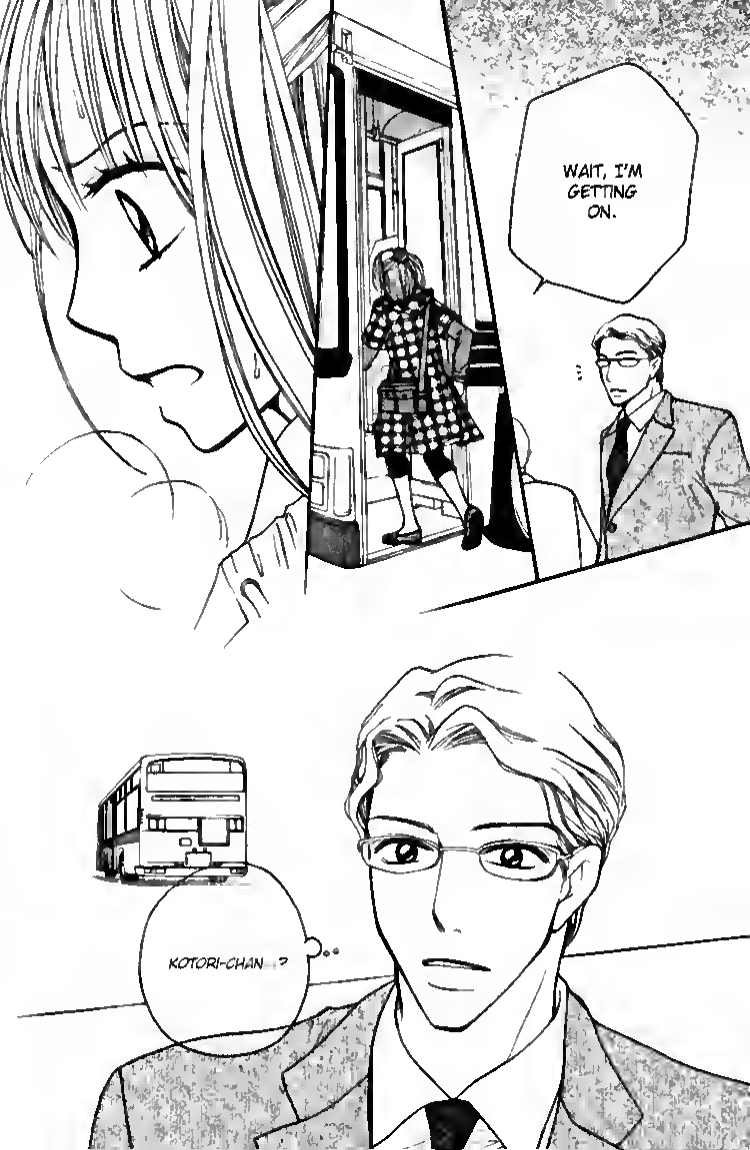
I won't give it to him so easily!
NOT YET.. IT COULD BE LATE
THERE'S A LOT OF TRAFFIC TODAY
Bus to Aohara station.
YOU SHOULDN'T LIE, KOTORI-CHAN
YOU WERE PLANNING TO RETURN THE DVD AFTER SHOWING IT TO THE POLICE, WEREN'T YOU?

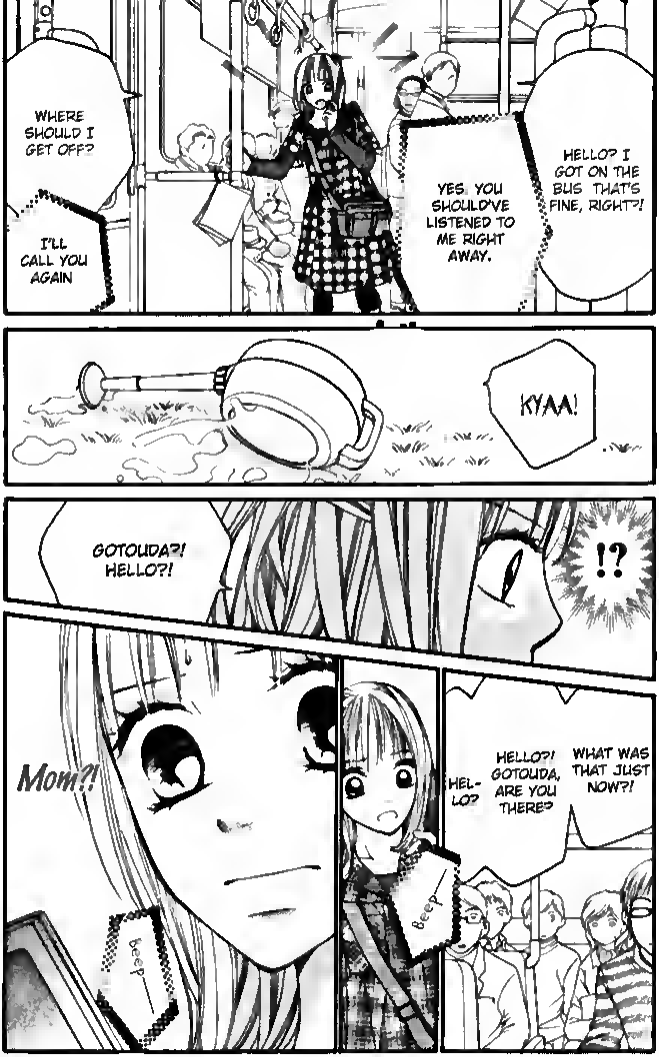
But if I return this, then I can't have Gotouda arrested.
Are you riding this bus?
Um.
DON'T MISS YOUR BUS, KOTORI-CHAN.
TH POLICE STATION
After I finally got this far!

JUST IMAGINE WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOUR MOM IF YOU DON'T GET ON THE BUS...
USE YOUR IMAGINATION TO MAKE UP YOUR MIND
AND...
I...
DON'T THINK THAT YOU'RE A COWARD IF YOU DON'T CONTINUE
This guy...
IT TAKES COURAGE TO REALIZE THAT YOU'RE POWERLESS TO CHANGE ANYTHING
I'm going.

BE A GOOD GIRL AND EVERYTHING WILL BE OKAY
"USELESS ACTIONS ONLY BRING FORTH BAD RESULTS."
NOBARA-CHAN IS PROBABLY REGRETTING THE SAME THING
You bitch.
Hey you! Put your cigarette out!
Help! Someone!
I told you I won't forgive you!
Mom...

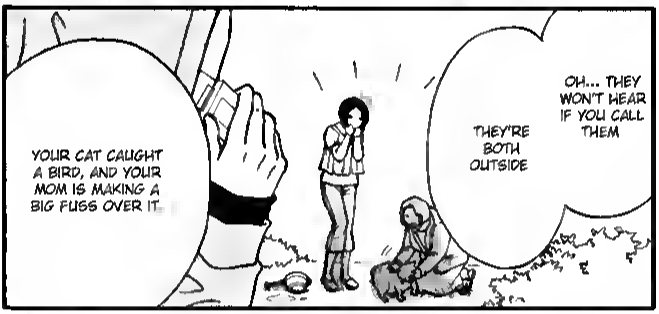

Mom.....


WAIT, I'M GETTING ON.
KOTORI-CHAN...?


WHERE SHOULD I GET OFF?
I'LL CALL YOU AGAIN
YES. YOU SHOULD'VE LISTENED TO ME RIGHT AWAY.
HELLO? I GOT ON THE BUS. THAT'S FINE, RIGHT?!
KYAA!
GOTOUDA?! HELLO?!
!?
Mom?!
beep
HEL-LO?
HELLO?! GOTOUDA, ARE YOU THERE?
WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW?!
beep

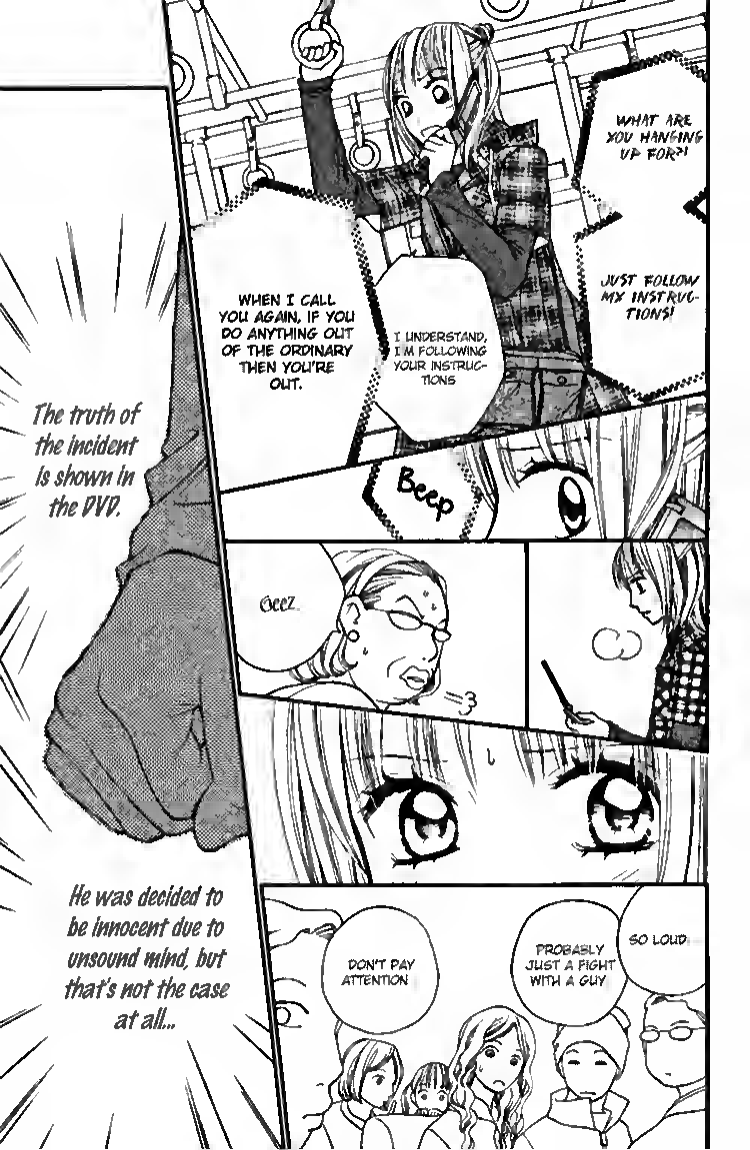
RRRR RRRR RRRR
RRRR RRRR RRRR
RRRR RRRR RRRR
BEEP
Home
BEEP
Why isn't she answering? Even if she's outside, she should be able to hear it.
GRANDMA (MOBILE)
RRRR RRRR RRRR
RRRR RRRR RRRR
It's strange that even grandma isn't answering.
YOU'VE REACH A VOICE MESSAGE SERVICE.
RING
Incoming call
Unknown
SHAKING
Help, inspector..
Somethine definitely happened to them!

HELLO?
I WONDER WHO YOU CALLED?
WHAT DID YOU DO TO MY MOM AND GRANDMA?!


OH... THEY WON'T HEAR IF YOU CALL THEM
THEY'RE BOTH OUTSIDE
YOUR CAT CAUGHT A BIRD, AND YOUR MOM IS MAKING A BIG FUSS OVER IT.

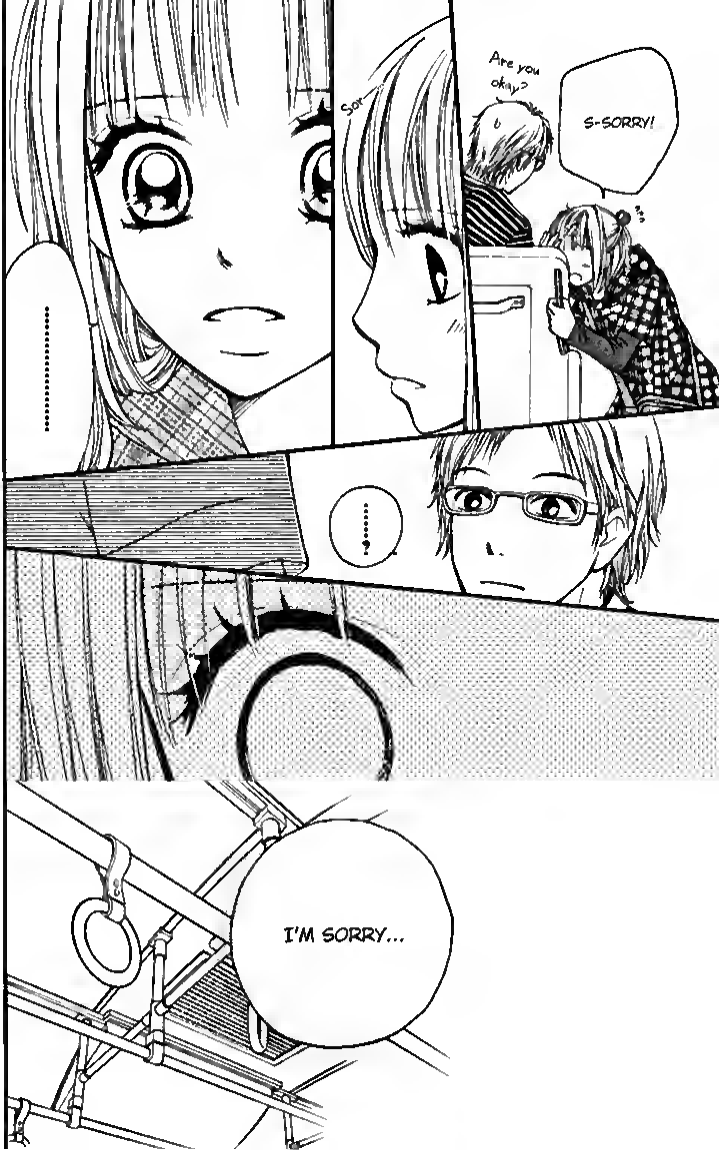
IS THAT THE TRUTH?! YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING?!
Next stop is Midori elementary school.
TODAY'S BUS IS RIGHT ON SCHEDULE.
GET OFF THE BUS AFTER 6 MORE STOPS, AT THE POST OFFICE.
IT SHOULD BE 6:12

IT'S COMMON COURTESY TO NOT USE A PHONE ON A BUS!
CLICK
STOP TALKING ON YOUR PHONE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING...
ARE YOU COMING THERE?!
THE POST OFFICE?! WHAT SHOULD I DO WHEN I GET THERE?
SOMEONE WILL GO FOR ME.
EH? WHO?
RING RING
IT'S NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT COMMON COURTESY!!


WHAT ARE YOU HANGING UP FOR?!
JUST FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS!
I UNDERSTAND, I'M FOLLOWING YOUR INSTRUCTIONS
WHEN I CALL YOU AGAIN, IF YOU DO ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY THEN YOU'RE OUT.
Beep
Geez
The truth of the incident is shown in the DVD.
He was decided to be innocent due to unsound mind, but that's not the case at all...
DON'T PAY ATTENTION
PROBABLY JUST A FIGHT WITH A GUY
SO LOUD

The incident that happened so close from here...
Everyone must've already forgotten about the student who was murdered 3 years ago.
Even though her face appeared on TV and newspapers so much...
A girl with the same face as me...
Even if I call the police right now and ask them to catch Gotouda in front of my house.
They can't arrest Gotouda if he's just standing there, and hasn't done anything yet.

I should've predicted this and made a copy before I left the house.
I'm so stupid...
Even if I hand in the DVD to the police and they decide to arrest him...
"Useless actions only bring forth bad results."
but, then something happens to mom in the meantime. I'll regret it for the rest of my life!
ARE YOU OKAY?
BUMP
I'M OKAY.
YOU LOOK PALE, HOW ABOUT YOU TAKE THIS SEAT?
I'm getting dizzy!!
AHH!
OUCH!


Are you okay?
S-SORRY!
I'M SORRY...

Third stop
Next is Nakano post office
NAKANO POST OFFICE

RING
ARE YOU THERE?
YES.
WALK ALONG THE STREET BETWEEN THE POST OFFICE AND THE BROWN BUILDING.
HOW FAR DO YOU WANT ME TO WALK
IN THIS EMPTY ROAD?
DO YOU HAVE THE DVD WITH YOU?
TAKE THE NEXT LEFT TURN.

YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING LIKE SWITCHING IT FOR ANOTHER?
Hehe
I GUESS SO.
WHAT COULD I DO ON A BUS?
Eh?
WAIT...
ARE YOU HERE FOR GOTOUDA?!
Who's this?!

KYA!
I GOT THE DVD.
THIS SLOPPY HANDWRITING IS DEFINITELY YOURS.
THANKS~
WAIT...
VERY GOOD, KOTORI-CHAN.
SO WE'RE GOOD?!
YOU'LL LEAVE MY MOM ALONE?!

IS MY MOM OKAY?!
Heh.
WHAT A DUMMY!
IT'S KIND OF A WASTE,
BUT IT WAS ENTER-TAINING...
BUT I'LL DESTROY THE DVD TO PUT AN END TO THIS
DON'T THINK THAT YOUR CRIME
WILL BE GONE JUST BY ERASING THE VIDEO!
I DIDN'T REALLY NEED TO GET IT BACK FROM YOU
JUST SAYING,
EVEN IF I COULDN'T RETRIEVE THE DVD,
THE POLICE CAN'T DO ANYTHING TO ME ANYMORE

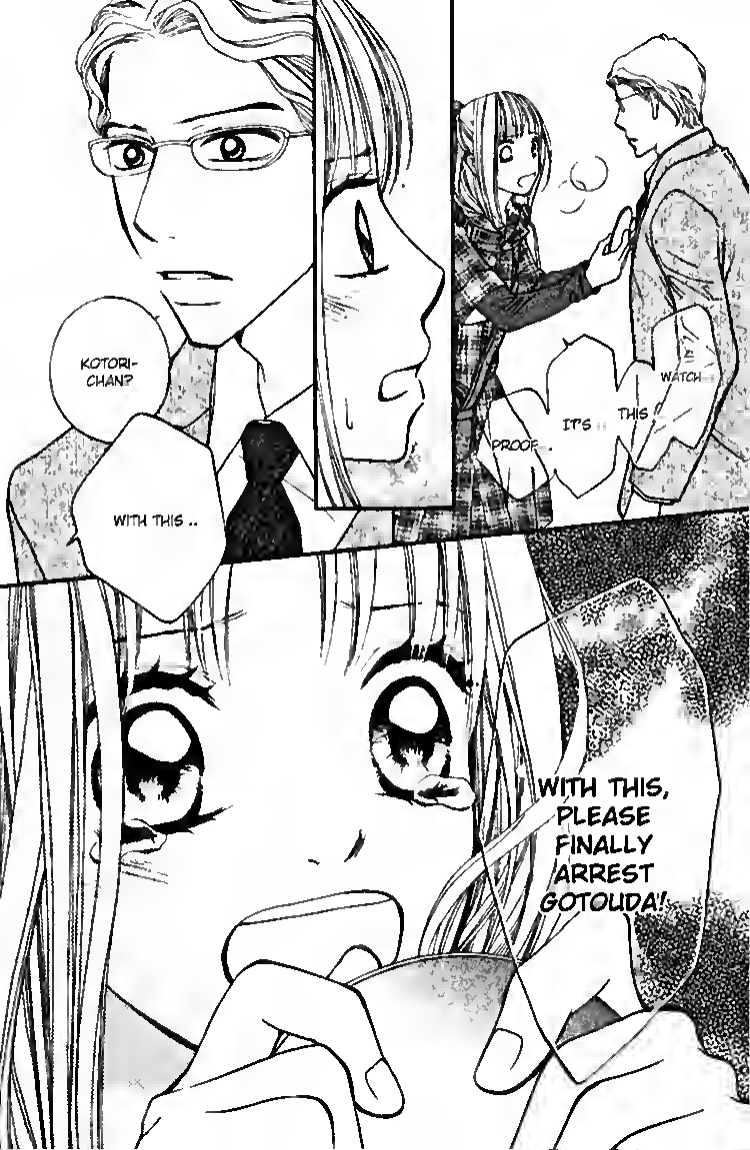
I ADMIRE YOUR STUBBORN-NESS...
BUT IF YOU KEEP HARRASS-ING ME, I MIGHT SUE YOU FOR SLANDER~
He thinks he has already won?
BYE BYE, KOTORI-CHAN.
Beep
RING RING

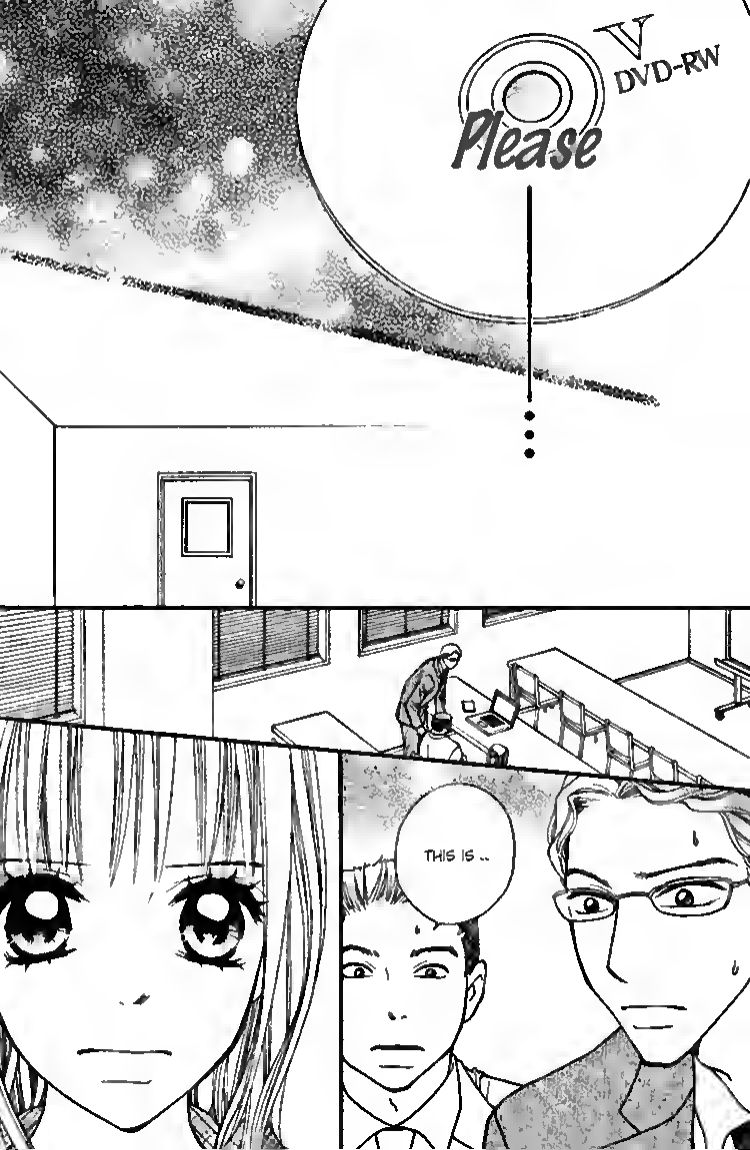
I won't let it.
It won't end like this.
This is not the end, Gotouda.
YES.
UMM... IS IT OVER?
I'M ON MY WAY.
IS THIS THE RIGHT KIND?

YOU CAN MAKE A COPY WITH THIS, RIGHT?
120
DVD-R
I WAS SO SURPRISED EARLIER
WHEN YOU ASKED ME TO COPY THE DATA.
I LEFT HOME IN A HURRY AND I ABSOLUTELY NEEDED
IT REALLY SAVED ME! SORRY TO MAKE SUCH A STRANGE REQUEST...
A COPY OF THAT DVD BEFORE I RETURN THE ORIGINAL...
S-Sorry
AH...
I need a favor
I'm sorry

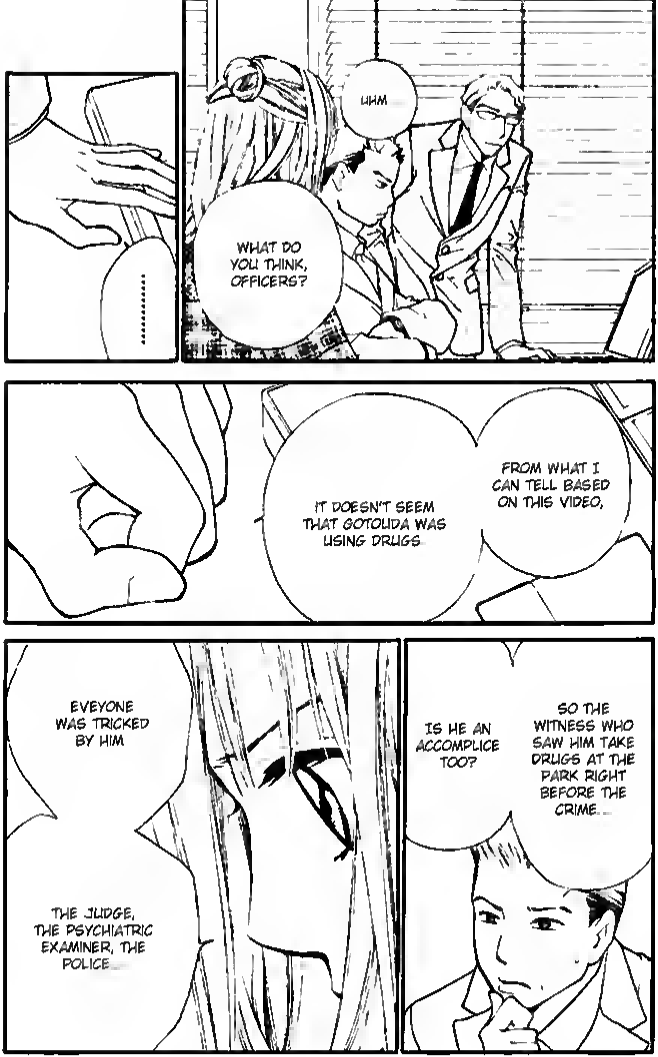
Please wait
Writing data to CD
IT MUST HAVE BEEN VERY IMPORTANT DATA.
YOU SEEMED VERY NERVOUS EVER SINCE YOU GOT ON THE BUS.
—FROM THE INCIDENT...
Hm?
EXAM?
T/L NOTE: HE MISHEARD WHAT SHE SAID SINCE IT SOUNDS SIMILAR
AH, NO
I'M SO GRATEFUL TO YOU.
Really Really
GOOD LUCK ON YOUR EXAM
Bye
He's a little similar to my dad.
HM? IS THERE STILL SOMETHING?
CD writing complete
HERE YOU GO
Files deleted
eheh
Bam

I did it...
I did it, Kotori!
Now he won't be able to lie anymore.
He won't be able to run away anymore.
KOTORI-CHAN WHAT'S WRONG?
NAKANO NORTH POLICE


KOTORI-CHAN?
WITH THIS ..
PROOF..
IT'S
THIS
WATCH
WITH THIS, PLEASE FINALLY ARREST GOTOUDA!

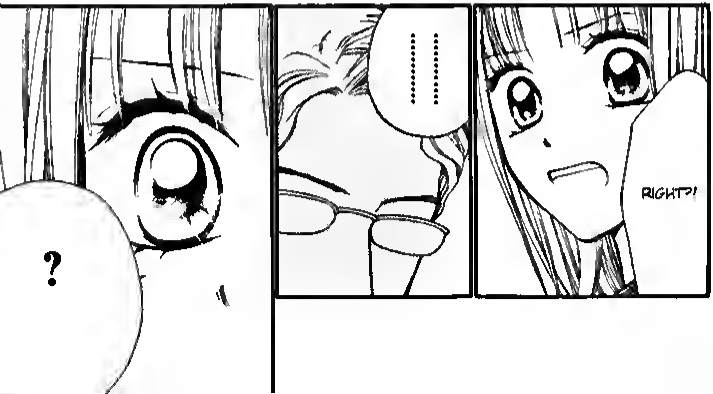

Please
DVD-RW
THIS IS ..

Hey, nobody saw us go in here, right?
In the meantime, let's get out of here
We'll split up! Kenji, you go that way!
What are you doing?! Turn that off!!!

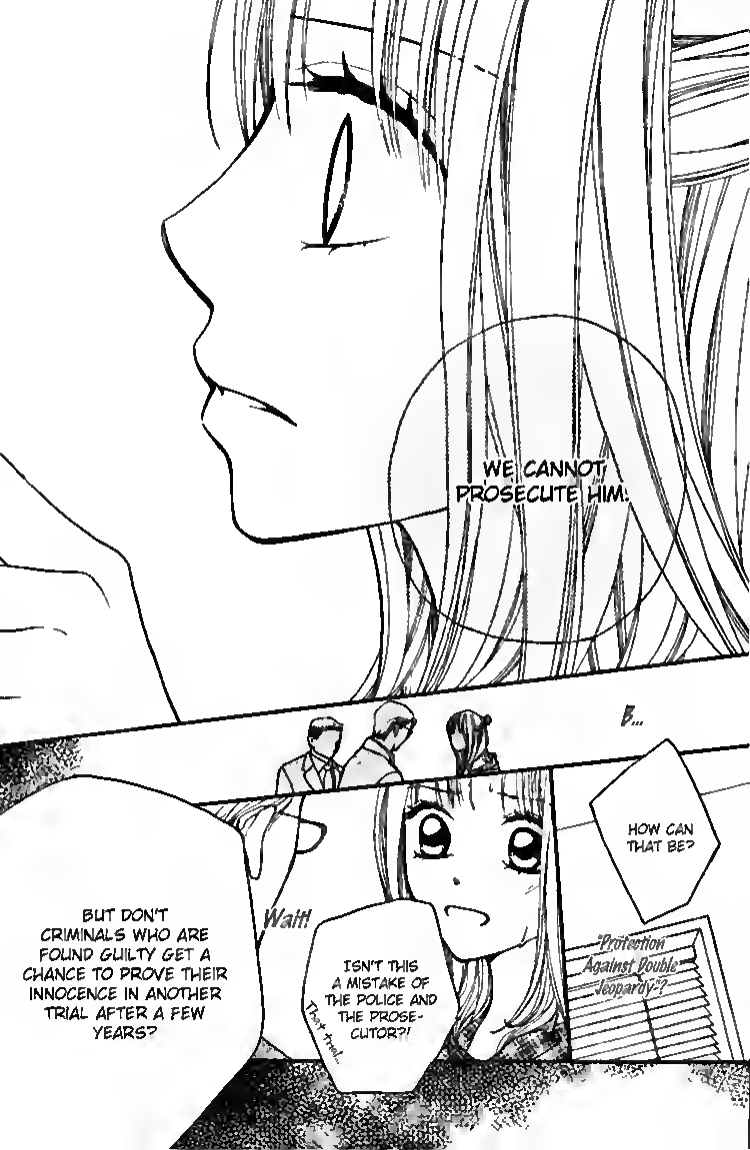

.....
WHAT DO YOU THINK, OFFICERS?
UHM
FROM WHAT I CAN TELL BASED ON THIS VIDEO,
IT DOESN'T SEEM THAT GOTOUDA WAS USING DRUGS
SO THE WITNESS WHO SAW HIM TAKE DRUGS AT THE PARK RIGHT BEFORE THE CRIME...
IS HE AN ACCOMPLICE TOO?
EVEYONE WAS TRICKED BY HIM
THE JUDGE, THE PSYCHIATRIC EXAMINER, THE POLICE...

EVEN AFTER THREE YEARS, IT'S NOT TOO LATE, RIGHT?
YOU CAN GET AN ARREST WARRANT, RIGHT?
YOU CAN PROSECUTE HIM AGAIN AND DO THE TRIAL ALL OVER AGAIN, RIGHT?!
THERE'S A JURY NOW...
ANYONE WOULD WANT A STRICT PUNISHMENT FOR GOTOUDA AFTER SEEING THIS
THIS TIME AROUND

This time around Gotouda will be executed...



I CAN'T DO THAT.
PLEASE PROSECUTE HIM.
PLEASE RE-OPEN THE INVESTIGATION.
And with this..
Eh?
IT'S CALLED "PROTECTION AGAINST DOUBLE JEOPARDY".
AFTER A RULING HAS BEEN MADE ABOUT A CERTAIN CRIME, THE PERSON CAN'T BE PROSECUTED AGAIN FOR THE SAME INCIDENT.
ONCE A JUDGE RULED THAT HE'S INNOCENT...
EVEN IF THAT IS A MISTAKE, IT CAN'T BE CHANGED.


WE CANNOT PROSECUTE HIM.
B...
HOW CAN THAT BE?
"Protection Against Double Jeopardy"?
Wait!
ISN'T THIS A MISTAKE OF THE POLICE AND THE PROSECUTOR?!
That trial...
BUT DON'T CRIMINALS WHO ARE FOUND GUILTY GET A CHANCE TO PROVE THEIR INNOCENCE IN ANOTHER TRIAL AFTER A FEW YEARS?

THEY ONLY GET A CHANCE FOR RE-TRIAL
IF THERE'S SUSPICION OF MISREPRE-SENTATION
ARE YOU SAYING MISINTER-PRETATION ON THIS CASE ISN'T ACKNOWLEDGED?! THAT'S NOT RIGHT...
EVEN IF WE HAVE SUCH CLEAR PROOF?
IT'S RIGHT HERE!
THE TRUTH ABOUT THE CRIME IS RIGHT HERE IN THIS VIDEO...
EVEN YOU SAID THAT HE LOOKED SOBER, OFFICER.
WE CAN'T INVESTIGATE A CASE THAT WAS ALREADY CLOSED
ON OUR OWN.
Please, officer...

THOSE ARE THIS COUNTRY'S LAWS
NO WAY...
ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT GOTOUDA WILL GET AWAY FROM THIS?
I'M SORRY...

Why...
WHY IS
JAPAN SO LENIENT WITH CRIMINALS...?

Enjoy
Volume 7 Chapter 45

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Typesetter	Adling
QC'er	Moon

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Chapter 16 "Decision"

"We cannot prosecute him."
"Protection Against Double Jeopardy"
DVD-RW
I didn't know about this law.
SO IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO FILE A CIVIL SUIT?
KOTORI-CHAN...
BUT...
DON'T THOSE POLICEMEN FEEL ANYTHING AFTER WATCHING THIS?
THE POLICE IS SETTING GOTOLIDA FREE?!
EVEN THOUGH THE WHOLE CRIME IS FILMED HERE...

BUT WHAT I WANT IS NOT MONEY!
IT MUST BE MURDER!
...of Kotori.
I WANT HIM TO BE ARRESTED FOR MURDERING MY SISTER!
AND IT'S NO GOOD TO ME TOO IF GOTOUDA IS ARRESTED FOR A DIFFERENT CRIME—
THE KENJI GUY WHO FILMED FOR ACCESSORY TO MURDER.
THIS CAN BE ARRESTED AND PROSECUTED
NOT HIM—

I didn't know...
that Japan was so lenient on criminals.
Throw

It's impossible to arrest him as a murderer...
That is unless he commits another murder.
There's nothing I can do anymore!
DAMN IT!
This is the end.
Damn it!

There's nothing I can do anymore!
thunk
MANABU~~~ IT'S ME~~~
KENJI~~
Bang Bang
RECOVERY COMPLETE~~
KITA HIGH SUZUKI!

Kita High
Suzuki Nob
Slam
It was easy~
THANK YOU.

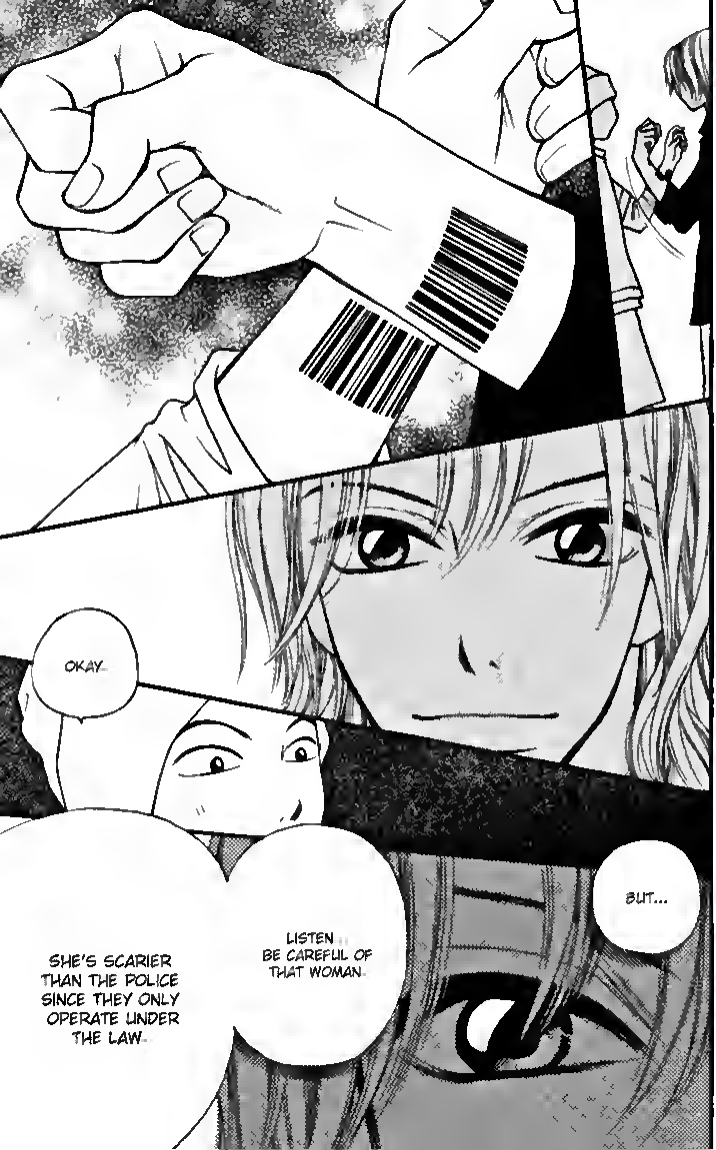
BUT, MANABU...
EVEN IF THAT DVD WAS HANDED TO THE POLICE, THERE'S NOTHING THEY CAN DO TO YOU ANYMORE, RIGHT?
THIS IS SERIOUS STUFF...
YET, YOU INSISTED TO GET IT BACK
THE POLICE CAN'T TOUCH YOU...
Thanks to that law.
THE SCENES THAT ARE IN HERE.
THEY SHOW A PERSON'S DEATH.
LICK
Ohh...
I didn't know you liked that kind of thing!
BUT YOU SHOULD HIDE IT SOMEWHERE BETTER SO I DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS AGAIN.
HUH?
NO, I MEAN...
It wasn't really trouble. I mean...
IDIOT. YOU WERE IN DANGER.

EH? ME?
EVEN JUST FILMING IT IS A PRETTY SERIOUS CRIME.
EH?!
THE POLICE WOULD NOTICE RIGHT AWAY THAT THE PERSON IN THE VIDEO IS THE SAME KENJI THAT TESTIFIED IN MY TRIAL.
AH.
PERJURY, ACCESSORY TO MURDER,
THE ATTEMPTED MURDER BY PUSHING THAT GIRL OFF THE PLATFORM,
AND OTHER CRIMES — THE POLICE WOULD BE ABLE TO TAG YOU WITH THEM.
Heh.
AHH!!! STOP IT!
I WAS ALREADY LOCKED UP FOR 2 YEARS JUST FOR THE "DRUG DEALER" ROLE!
N-NO...
.....
AH.
N-...
—WAS IT BAD?

LIVING IN PRISON WASN'T SO BAD AT ALL.
I KNOW IT'S MORE MONEY THAN I COULD POSSIBLY PAY BACK BY WORKING 2 YEARS
THE MONEY YOU LENT ME...
AND YOU LET MY DEBT JUST FOR SITTING AROUND IN PRISON EATING 3 MEALS A DAY AND TAKING NAPS FOR 2 YEARS.
I'm...
I STILL OWE YOU SO MUCH!
I WILL HELP YOU WITH WHATEVER YOU NEED
YOU SAID THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE YOU NEED HELP WITH RIGHT?
What is it?
YES.

BUT THAT IS ALREADY TAKEN CARE OF...
OH?
OH, BOY...
IS THIS ALL THE STUFF YOU'RE TAKING?
YEAH.
NOT THE BED OR WASHING MACHINE?
HA!
A PICTURE OF YOU AS GOTOUDA!
BRINGS BACK MEMORIES~~~~

AFTER I ALREADY CHANGED MY FACE AND NAME
AND HAD A CHANCE TO RESET MY LIFE
IF THAT WOMAN IS STILL HANGING AROUND ME, THEN I CAN SAY THAT...
I'M STILL CONNECTED TO THAT DAY 3 YEARS AGO...
IT'S A GOOD LOOK FOR GETTING GIRLS!
I'M REALLY GRATEFUL TO YOU.
WAA!!!
JERK.
I THINK YOU WERE DEFINITELY MORE COOL LOOKING BEFORE!
DON'T YOU AGREE, MANABU?
Heh


OKAY.
BUT...
LISTEN... BE CAREFUL OF THAT WOMAN.
SHE'S SCARIER THAN THE POLICE SINCE THEY ONLY OPERATE UNDER THE LAW.

Good luck!
IS HE PLANNING TO CHANGE HIS FACE MORE?
SEE YA!
Okay.
DON'T LAUGH AT ME NEXT TIME WE MEET IF MY FACE BECOMES MORE HANDSOME
WHAT ABOUT HIME-CHAN?
OH, MANABU...
WHO'S THAT?

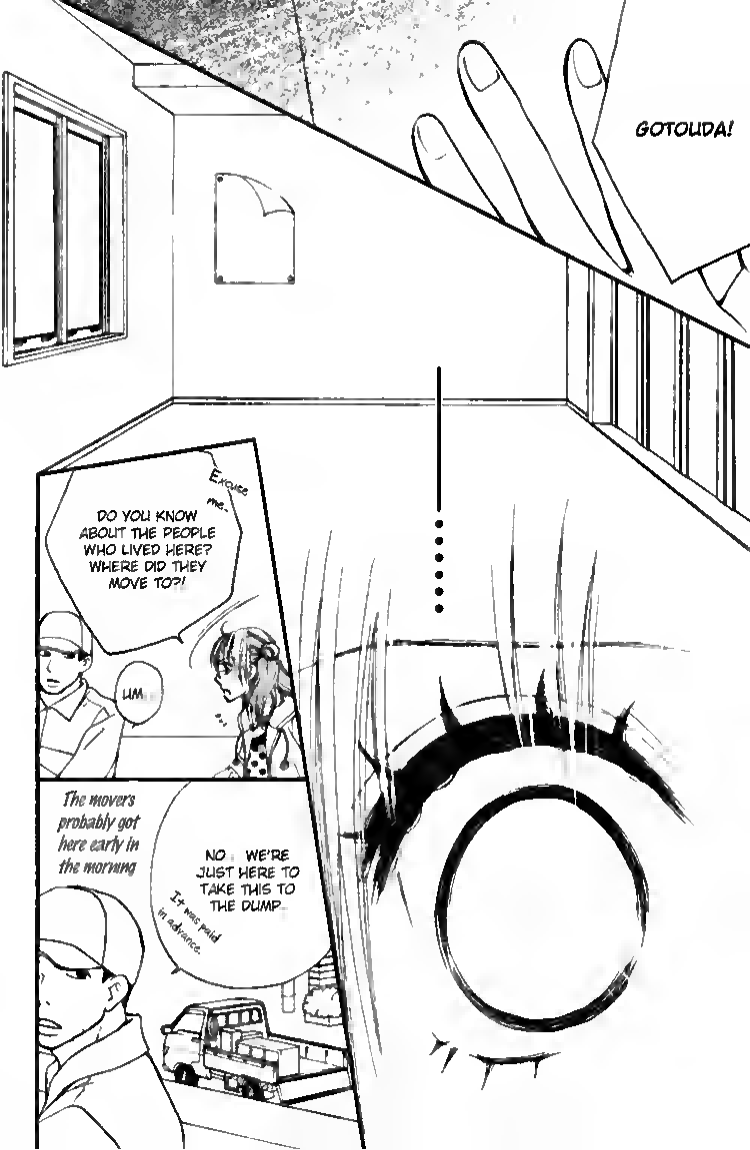
OPEN
Huh?
KOTORI?
IT'S PROBABLY A MESS IN HERE AGAIN...
AH, IT'S SURPRISINGLY IN ORDER.
KOTORI?
Oh, she's outside.
IS SHE GOING SOMEWHERE?

.....
Eh..?
PUUTA HAS NEVER EATEN FROM ANYONE'S HAND BUT NOBARA'S.
HOW..
.....

LIKE I SUSPECTED...
YOU'RE NOBARA, AREN'T YOU?
Grandma...
I WAS JUST LEAVING.
WHERE ARE YOU GOING...?!
WAIT!
NOB-

NOBARA!
bye-bye, grandma.

He moved out?!
Eh...?


GOTOUDA!
Excuse me.
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO LIVED HERE? WHERE DID THEY MOVE TO?!
UM...
The movers probably got here early in the morning
NO. WE'RE JUST HERE TO TAKE THIS TO THE DUMP.
It was paid in advance.

Hime-chan...
HE LEFT THE HOSPITAL YESTERDAY WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING.
They didn't finish checking him over.
Their apartment is completely empty.
He ran away...
RING~ RING~
Incoming call
Hime-chan
AND HIS CELLPHONE NUMBER WAS CANCELED...
WHAT SHOULD I DO, KOTORI-CHAN? I CAN'T REACH MURASE-KUN.
HIS BEST FRIEND KENJI SAYS HE DOESN'T KNOW WHERE HE IS...
What happened?
!!
KENJI?!
I GUESS MY DAD SAID PRETTY HARSH THINGS YESTERDAY.
That must be why...
HUH? KENJI'S CONTACT INFO? HIS ADDRESS?
I KNOW IT.

1963
4-15-2
104
APARTMENT
HIME-CHAN... I DON'T THINK MURASE-SAN WILL EVER COME BACK.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN...
HE'S NOT WHO YOU THINK HE IS
THIS AGAIN?!
He probably planned the bike accident
HIME-CHAN... I, ALSO, HAVE BEEN LYING TO YOU FOR A LONG TIME
EH?
I'M NOT KOTORI
KOTORI-CHA...
Beep?
Beep?
Ah, okay~
Cellphones are prohibited in the hospital
Bye bye, Hime-chan.

HIME-
YUUWA-KUN!
I WANT TO ASK YOU ABOUT THE BIKE ACCIDENT.
EH?
PLEASE TRY TO THINK...
WAS THERE ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
What's with the two of you?
I THOUGHT KOTORI-CHAN WAS GOING TO HELP ME FIND MURASE SINCE SHE ASKED FOR KENJI'S ADDRESS
BUT THEN SHE STARTED SAYING STRANGE THINGS
WHAT DID SHE SAY?!
WHERE DID SHE SAY SHE WAS GOING?!
WHAT IS THIS...
WHAT'S GOING ON?!

WHERE DID NOBARA GO?!
HEIWA APARTMENT
.....
YES.... HELLO?
WHOSE NUMBER IS THIS?
Ring
Ring
Click

HELLO?
WHO THE HELL IS THIS?
IT'S ME.
EH

!!
BANG

WON'T TELL ME WHERE GOTOUDA IS?
YOU REALLY
IF I CAN'T TAKE REVENGE ON GOTOUDA. .
THEN,
I SHOULD AT LEAST HAND YOU OVER TO THE POLICE.

AND WITH THIS VIDEO CAMERA,
YOU CONTINUED TO FILM GOTOUDA AS HE COMMITTED THAT DESPICABLE CRIME.
IT WAS ALSO YOU WHO GAVE A FALSE TESTIMONY DURING THE TRIAL...
YOU TRIED TO PUSH ME OFF THE PLATFORM.
WITH THIS HAND,
CAN BE CHARGED AS A "MURDER"?
APPARENTLY, ACCESSORY TO MURDER WHILE BEING PRESENT IN THE CRIME ITSELF
DID YOU KNOW?
.....
IT'S NOT A THREAT.

BUT YOU KNOW...
IF THEY CHARGE YOU MURDER
AND YOU END UP GETTING
A LIGHT SENTENCE LIKE FIVE YEARS IMPRISON
I WOULD BE SO DISAP-POINTED
LOOK AT THIS.
I GOT IT FROM GOTOUDA'S APARTMENT.
IF YOU HADN'T GIVEN A FALSE STATEMENT THEN GOTOUDA MIGHT'VE GOTTEN THE CAPITAL PUNISHMENT!

IF YOU CALLED AN AMBULANCE
WHEN YOU SAW THAT KOTORI WASN'T BREATHING...
MAYBE, SHE WOULD'VE BEEN SAVED!
MMM! MMMMM!
ARE YOU SCARED?
YOU WANT TO LIVE?
MM
YOU SAW HOW SCARED KOTORI WAS!
HOW SHE SCREAMED FOR HELP OVER AND OVER!
LIKE YOU, SHE WASN'T READY TO DIE!

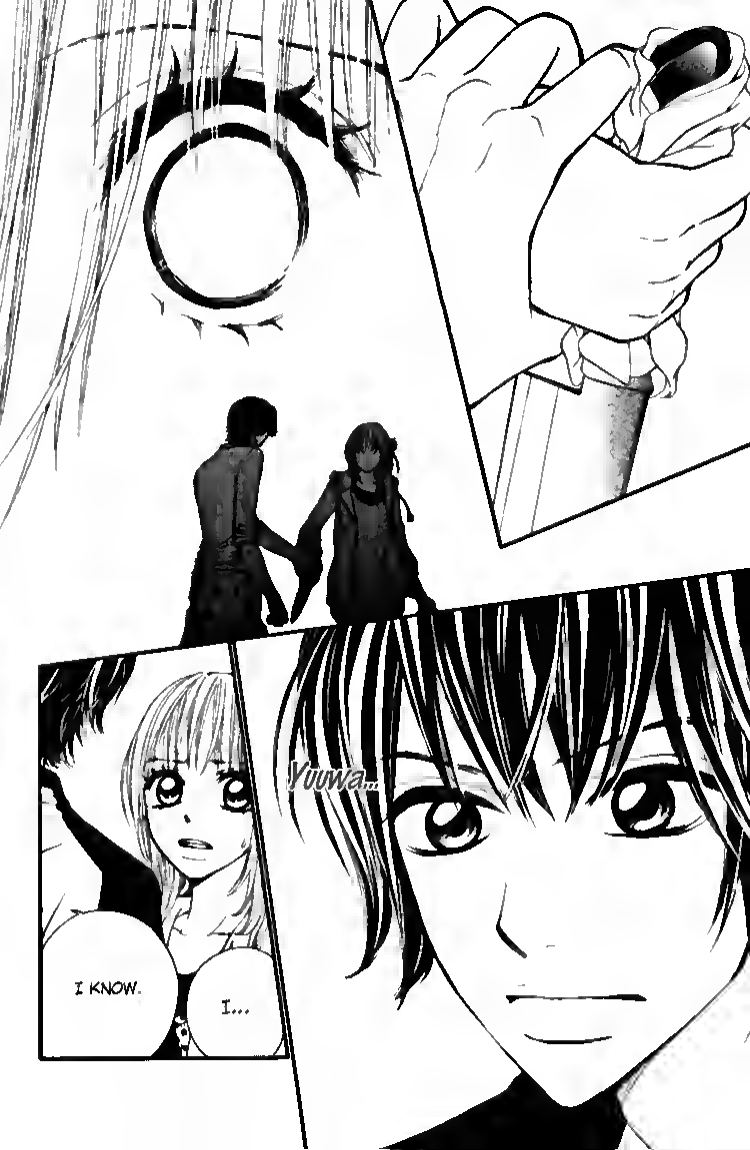
KOTORI WANTED TO LIVE!
!!
IS THIS WHERE GOTOUDA IS?
N... N...
BUMP
080-15
HILL TOP 4-
BUILDING
305
...

I TOLD YOU HIS WHERE-ABOUTS
HEY! TAKE THESE OFF!
THE POLICE SHOULD BE HERE SOON...
I DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD TURN OUT LIKE THAT!
WE DIDN'T WANT TO KILL ANYONE
EVEN MANABU...
Hey!
RIP
I'VE ALREADY SHOWN THE DVD TO THE POLICE.
AT LEAST,
YOU WILL BE PUNISHED.
JUST BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T DO IT WITH YOUR OWN HANDS, IT DOESN'T MEAN YOUR SIN IS LIGHTER THAN HIS.

YOU MUST ACCEPT YOUR PUNISHMENT.
I WILL DRAG THE TRUTH OF THE INCIDENT TO THE LIGHT.
AND YOU MUST REMEMBER KOTORI WHO DIED RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU!
THINK OF THIS FACE EVERY DAY IN PRISON
UNTIL YOU CAN'T BEAR IT ANYMORE!
I WANT YOU TO SUFFER UNTIL THE DAY YOU DIE.

I was thrown down a cliff 3 years ago...
and I still haven't been able to rise all the way to the surface.
And today, I will fall to even lower depths...
along with Gotouda.
TO KILL MANABU?
WAIT!
ARE YOU POSSIBLY THINKING
ARE YOU..

BUILDING KK
305
305
Gotouda...

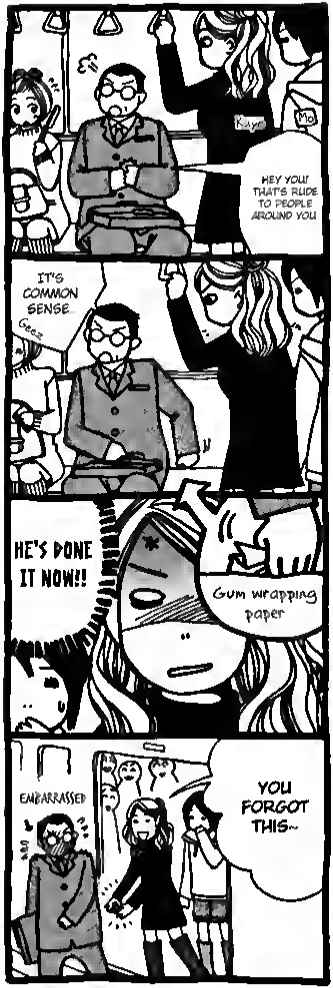

Yuuwa...
I KNOW.
I...

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE PLANNING TO DO
AND I KNOW THAT I CAN'T STOP YOU.
BUT A WOMAN IS TOO WEAK TO DO IT
YUU...
LET ME DO IT.

YUUWA...
I WILL KILL GOTOUDA.
<<CONTINUED IN VOLUME 5!!>>

LAZINESS
THE INSIDE
Hahaha
Momochi
YOU'RE DRYING IT INSIDE OUT--?
IT'S TO PREVENT IT FROM FADING
Kayo-chan
BUT THE TAG BOTHERS ME
ARE YOU A KID?!
I'LL FIX IT WHEN I WANT TO WEAR IT
YOU'RE PUTTING IT AWAY STILL INSIDE OUT ?
Momocchi diary
IT'S OKAY IF I'M AT HOME
THEN SHE RUSHES WHEN A DELIVERY MAN ARRIVES
IF YOU PUT IT IN THE FRIDGE OVERNIGHT THEN IT BECOMES FLUFFY LIKE HANPEN (THIS HAS FOOD COLORING WHICH IS BAD FOR YOU)
FRUIT YOGURT
PLAIN YOGURT

ADULT MANNERS #2



ADULT MANNERS #1 (FIRST HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER)

Enoch's Volume 4 Chapter 16

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電撃アイジー

Indulgence

Nobara comes back as herself to kill Gotouda, but when she appears in his apartment, Yuuwa offers to do it instead. Just how will Nobara react to this and what shall be the end of Nobara, Yuuwa and Gotouda's lives? Everything will be revealed on the riveting final volume of Momochi Reiko's Inochi.

Volume 3 is coming soon! Stay tuned!

-Indulgence Staff

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